



Distinctive First-Year Academic Program



A highly intentional, innovative UB experience, the program emphasizes individualized instruction and support through an intensive suite of integrated, success-oriented, high-impact best practices.

➤ **LEARNING COMMUNITIES**

are thematically linked courses that provide an integrated approach to cross-disciplinary education.

➤ **FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR**

addresses risk factors associated with early college challenges, and collaborates extensively with the Career and Professional Development Center. The course helps students develop collaboration skills, financial literacy and more.

➤ **FOUNDATIONAL COURSES**

in writing and mathematics designed to enhance college readiness. Foundational courses are taken simultaneously with college courses; faculty members receive specialized training.

➤ **SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION**

offered in gateway courses to provide additional support.

➤ **UNIVERSITY WRITING PROGRAM**

uses directed self-placement for entering first-year students to determine appropriate level of coursework. Students create a writing portfolio in their first semester.

➤ **GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

ensure students have the qualifications that employers and graduate programs demand, from communication skills to critical thinking to professional self-presentation.

➤ **INFO 110 INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION LITERACY**

helps students learn to locate, evaluate and effectively use information for greater academic success.

➤ **FIRST-YEAR ADVISING**

provides one-on-one, consultative support. Advisers encourage and guide students to take responsibility for their academic plans.

➤ **EARLY ALERT SYSTEM**

facilitates efficient communication between adviser, professor and student to help students identify academic challenges and connect to campus support services (e.g., tutoring, financial aid, counseling, etc.).

➤ **CO-CURRICULAR LEARNING**

helps students apply what they learn in the classroom in real world environments outside of the classroom, such as internships, community projects, coops and residencies.

➤ **ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES**

provide coaching, workshops and resources that support educational progress: Mathematics Learning Center and Writing Studio.

➤ **ADDITIONAL CAMPUS RESOURCES**

support student learning and success: Achievement and Learning Center, Counseling Center and Sophomore Seminar.

➤ **OTHER FEATURES**

include small class sizes, a variety of courses, exceptional full-time faculty who teach in the program and ongoing improvements and developments in technology.